

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment, reconsideration of this application, as amended, and reconsideration of the October 14, 2005, Office Action.

I. GENERAL REMARKS REGARDING THE CONTENT OF THIS AMENDMENT

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 10-12 and 23-25 will be pending in this application. Through this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 23 to independent form, and new claims 24 and 25 have been added to depend from claim 23. New claims 24 and 25 are based on original claims 11 and 12, but these new claims simply depend from independent claim 23. Accordingly, no new matter is included in this Amendment, and no additional claim fees are due as a result of this Amendment.

Applicants note that the Office has not rejected claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and/or 103. Accordingly, it is Applicants' understanding that this claim contains patentable subject matter. In view of their dependence from claim 23 and in light of the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 23-25 stand in condition for immediate allowance. Allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Applicants further submit that, for the reasons discussed in detail below, claims 10-12 also stand in condition for immediate allowance. The various issues raised in the Office Action are addressed below.

II. THE NON-STATUTORY DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION IS OVERCOME

The Office rejected claims 10-12 and 23 based on the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of various claims in Applicants' earlier U.S. Patent No. 6,947,882. *See* the Office Action at page 2. While Applicants do not agree with or acquiesce in this ground of rejection, in order to expedite prosecution and to facilitate allowance of this application, Applicants file a Terminal Disclaimer with this Amendment. Accordingly, this rejection is clearly overcome, and withdrawal of this rejection is earnestly solicited.

Applicants present this Terminal Disclaimer solely for the purposes of expediting prosecution and facilitating the immediate allowance of this application. Applicants reserve all rights to traverse the asserted basis for this ground of rejection and/or this obviousness assertion in the future, in any applicable or desired forum, *e.g.*, by presenting non-obviousness arguments and/or evidence, by presenting patentable distinctness arguments and/or evidence, and the like.

III. APPLICANTS' CLAIMS PATENTABLY DISTINGUISH FROM TRIMBERGER

The Office rejected claims 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Trimberger, U.S. Patent No. 5,701,441 (hereinafter "Trimberger"). *See* the Office Action at pages 2-4. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and request reconsideration.

For anticipation to exist, each and every element of a claim must be shown in a single reference, and the reference must show these elements arranged in the same manner as recited in the claim. *See The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure* § 2131. As will be demonstrated below, the cited Trimberger patent fails to anticipate the invention recited in Applicants' claims because this patent clearly does not describe the structure and/or arrangement of elements defined in the claims.

Applicants' claim 10 recites a multi-clocked routing chip for use in an emulation system. The claimed multi-clocked routing chip includes: (a) a reconfigurable static routing circuit; (b) a first set of input/output circuitry coupled to provide inputs to and receive outputs from the reconfigurable static routing circuit, wherein the first set of input/output circuitry is clocked by a first clock signal; and (c) a second set of input/output circuitry coupled to provide inputs to and receive outputs from the reconfigurable static routing circuit, wherein the second set of input/output circuitry is clocked by a second clock signal. The claim further recites that the second clock signal is different than the first clock signal. Applicants respectfully submit that the cited Trimberger patent does not teach or suggest this claimed structure and/or arrangement of elements.

In rejecting claim 10 as allegedly anticipated by Trimberger, the Office cites column 1, lines 8-11 of Trimberger as allegedly describing: (a) the claimed "reconfigurable static routing circuit," (b) the claimed "first set of input/output circuitry coupled to provide inputs to and receive outputs from the reconfigurable static routing circuit," and (c) the claimed "second set of input/output circuitry coupled to provide inputs to and receive outputs from the reconfigurable static routing circuit." *See*

the Office Action at page 3, lines 3-4, lines 4-7, and lines 12-15. This cited disclosure in Trimberger, in its entirety, is reproduced below:

This invention relates generally to a programmable logic device, and in particular to a field programmable gate array in which the configurable logic blocks and the programmable routing matrices are reconfigured dynamically.

See Trimberger at column 1, lines 8-11. This brief and general description of the general “field” of the Trimberger device falls far short of anticipating the multi-clocked routing chip structure, including a reconfigurable static routing circuit and two sets of input/output circuitry, as recited in Applicants’ claim 10. Notably, none of the specifically claimed elements are even identified in this general excerpt from the Trimberger patent.

The cited disclosure in Trimberger asserted as anticipating the clocking aspects of Applicants’ claim 10 also fails to anticipate the claimed structure. The Office relies upon Fig. 27 and its associated description at column 24 in Trimberger as allegedly anticipating Applicants’ claimed clocking features. *See* the Office Action at page 3, lines 8-12 and lines 15-22. This portion of Trimberger relates to clocking of a flip-flop 2700 that forms part of a user’s design and receives a clock signal from clock gating circuitry 2701. *See* Trimberger at column 24, lines 44-65. While generally mentioning multiple clocks in a user circuit design (*id.*, at column 24, lines 23-27), this portion of Trimberger has little in common with the multi-clocked routing chip recited in Applicants’ claim 10. For example, Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in this portion of Trimberger teaches or suggests: (a) a reconfigurable static routing circuit; (b) a first set of input/output circuitry coupled to provide inputs to and receive outputs from the reconfigurable static routing circuit, wherein the first set of input/output circuitry is clocked by a first clock signal; and (c) a second set of input/output circuitry coupled to provide inputs to and receive outputs from the reconfigurable static routing circuit, wherein the second set of input/output circuitry is clocked by a second clock signal and wherein the second clock signal is different than the first clock signal, as recited in Applicants’ claim 10. The mere mention of the use of multiple user clocks in a design does not, in and of itself, anticipate the multi-clocked routing chip structure, arrangement of elements, and/or clocking features recited in Applicants’ claim 10.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this general disclosure in Trimberger clearly fails to anticipate Applicants’ claims 10-12. The Office simply has failed to carry

its burden of establishing that the claims are anticipated by Trimberger. Withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of these claims are earnestly solicited.

IV. CONCLUSION

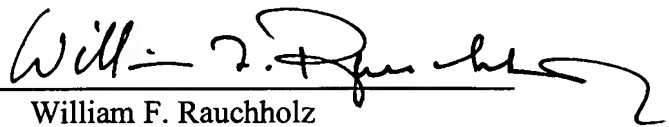
If the Examiner believes that a personal or telephone interview will be useful to resolve any issues and/or to advance the prosecution of this application, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Applicants have filed a separate Petition for Extension of Time for one month, along with a Fee Transmittal Sheet authorizing charges for the one month extension of time and the Terminal Disclaimer fee. If any additional fees are required, such as fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, or if an additional extension of time is necessary that is not accounted for in the papers filed with this Amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to debit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733 for any necessary fees, including any necessary extension fees. Any overpayment also can be credited to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

All rejections having been addressed, Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for immediate allowance and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dated: February 7, 2006